

NOTICE.

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PATENT MEDICINE VENDORS,
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NOTICE.—To avoid delay in the execution of Orders, it is particularly requested that all business communications be addressed to the Firm, A. S. Watson and Co.; or

HONGKONG DISPENSARY.

NOTICE TO CORRESPONDENTS.

Communication to Editorial writers should be addressed "The Editor," and those on business "The Manager," and not to individuals by name.

Correspondents are requested to forward their name and address with communications addressed to the Editor, not for publication, but as evidence of good faith.

All letters for publication should be written on one side of the paper only.

Advertisements and Subscriptions which are not cashed for a fixed period will be continued until cashed.

Order for extra copies of the *Daily Press* should be sent before 11 a.m. on the day of publication. After that hour the supply is limited.

BIRTH.—On the 26th April, at 12, Queen's Road Central, the wife of W. G. H. MCPHERNS, of a son. (82)

The Daily Press.

HONGKONG, APRIL 27TH, 1885.

The announcement of the conclusion of a protocol between China and Japan settling the difficulty which arose out of the recent disturbances in Seoul will be hailed with genuine satisfaction by all true friends of both countries. The protocol was signed at Tientsin on the 18th April by Li Chung-tang and Count Ito, and the latter was to leave the next day for Japan, a perfect certain proof of the satisfactory completeness of the agreement. The precise terms of the protocol have not yet been made public, but it provides for the withdrawal of both Chinese and Japanese troops from Korea, and Japan waives all claim for an indemnity from China. The Japanese Government originally, we believe, asked for an indemnity of £1,000,000 and the punishment of the Chinese commander in Seoul for firing on the Japanese troops. It is evident that Count Ito made some wise concessions, and the result is a settlement, the terms of which cannot offend the honour of either nation. His Excellency Li Hung-chang equally with Count Ito showed a moderation and a desire to conciliate which aided most materially the friendly course of the negotiations, the result being an agreement which practically proclaims the independence of Korea and provides against future rivalry by China and Japan in the attempt to acquire a military predominance in the peninsula kingdom. In future let us hope the only rivalry will be in commerce and social progress. A war between China and Japan could only be attended by mutual disaster, weakening both and doing nothing even to help forward the spread of Western civilization. It is the interest of both countries to make common cause against foreign aggression; not by dissension, to invite it. Both Chinese and Japanese statesmen should know that they have a common foe on their northern borders, whose over restless aggressiveness needs to be kept in constant check. Both nations have suffered aggression from the Great Britain. China has been robbed of a large slice of Manchuria; Japan was despoiled of Northern Siam, without any adequate compensation. It has been stated, and on good authority, that Russia intends to some day regain that portion of Kashgaria she so unwillingly disgorged in 1881; it is known that she has long looked with covetous eye on the two northern provinces of Kansu; and, rightly or wrongly, is said to be credited with designs upon Tibet. Of course no Russian Government would attempt to seize these important territories all together, nor would they perhaps go to war to secure either; but it is conceivable—and it is perfectly in accord with Muscovite policy—that they would wait until the opportunity arose for grasping either of these plums. Had the Franco-Chinese war continued, and the rebellion which is reported to have broken out in Kashgaria have spread, it is most probable that Russia would have again occupied Kuldja, and this time would have retained it. Had China and Japan gone to war over their Korean difference it is more than likely that Russia would have stepped in and taken possession of Port Lazarev. Were Japan to become embroiled in any serious quarrel, it is not difficult to imagine Russia picking a quarrel with her over fishing rights and then seizing Yesso as satisfaction for an imaginary outrage. Japan is wisely acquiring a fleet which some day she may require to repel aggression on the part of the Russian Pacific Squadron. China is prudently colonising Manchuria with a view to keep out any overflow of Russians from the other side of the Amur. Russia has a pretext always ready for a quarrel with China in what she terms the Chinese border raids. The Peking Government ought to be careful not to be caught napping; the sleepless energy of the Russian intriguer is notorious the world over. What is needed to curb the activity of Russia is complete harmony between England, China, and Japan. Such an alliance would effectively secure the peace and tranquillity of Asia, and the mere fact of its existence would do more to check Russian schemes than a number of successful battles. Neither of these three Powers desires the territory of the other, and it is the interest of each to see the other's territory maintained intact. Japan, under foreign rule would be a constant menace to China, and England; China under foreign domination would mean the serious decline of British commerce in the East, and the erection of a power dangerous to British interests.

The overthrow of the British empire in the East by a more aggressive power would mean an imminent peril to both China and Japan. As we have stated before, the interests of China and Japan demand the preservation of peace, while British commerce can only be remuneratively carried on in time of peace. It is therefore with unqualified pleasure we hear of the "rappement" that has taken place between China and Japan, a first step, let us hope, towards the attainment of such an understanding as may place all fear of future serious disagreement between them at an end.

The wreck of the Union line steamer *Castello*, at the now lies on Mid Island, was sold by auction on Saturday by Mr. E. Jones Houghton, the bidding starting at \$100, and the wreck was ultimately knocked down to Mr. Ng Man Kwan for \$1,500.

It is reported that the Glen tea clipper, the *Mercury*, has been chartered by the Government as a cruiser with a view to the Anglo-Russian complication. Since the *Stirling Castle* was taken from these waters, the crack Glen boat is probably the fastest vessel that comes out here, and she should be, therefore, exceedingly well adapted for the work. It is evident that considerable precautions are being taken for the protection of our commerce.

The findings in some recent Courts Martial at Hongkong have attracted attention in England. *Truth* says:— "Thanks to the pressure of public opinion, the severity of Courts Martial in our ports has been somewhat mitigated of late, but the old idea still lingers. Several men have been recently court-martialed on the China station, and this morning awarded six months' imprisonment to the board of the *Victor Emanuel* two ordinary seamen named Camier and Wicksteed, were sentenced to nine months and twelve months' hard labour respectively for disobedience to orders; Cox, a Mariner, was awarded two years' hard labour for desertion; and a signalman, Thomas Blackman, received twelve months' imprisonment for attempting to strike his superior officer, Thomas Leathem, seaman, was sentenced to be imprisoned for two years, and to be dismissed from the service. Naval officers are fond of alleging, in justification of similar decisions, that it is not they, but the regulations of the service, that are at fault; but the singular discrepancy between the above sentences, as well as their severity, seems to me to need a good deal of closer examination."

All the entrances to the port of Vladivostock have been closed by torpedoes, and vessels are not now allowed to enter the port unless piloted by Russian officers.

We understand that the French troops will evacuate Formosa on the 4th June next, the same date on which the last of the Chinese withdraw from Tongking.

The Agents (Messrs. Adams, Bell & Co.) inform us that the Shire Line steamer *Dundee*, from Hamburg, Antwerp, and London, sailed from Singapore on Saturday morning for this port.

The detachment of Royal Engineers shortly expected will be followed, arrive in the next P. & O. steamer. They will consist of one officer and 32 submarine miners, and one officer and eleven men of the engineers.

It is noticed in the *Government Gazette* that His Excellency the Governor has been requested to grant a leave of absence, and until further notice, Mr. Edward Henckel-Schaefer as in charge of the Belgian Consulate at this port during the absence of Mr. Atwell Coxon.

The steamer *Pentach* went to Tamsui to dock on the 20th inst. to repair the damage she sustained through her propeller striking and exploding a torpedo off Tamsui. The *Daily News* says the vessel was very much shaken by the explosion, but her hull does not appear to have been injured, though her propeller is said to be damaged.

A proclamation by His Excellency in the *Government Gazette* announces Her Majesty's confirmation and allowance of Ordinance of 1885, to apply a sum not exceeding \$10,000 to the Public Service of the year 1885. Ordinance 2 of 1885, entitled An Ordinance to amend the Stamp Ordinance, 1884, and Ordinance 3 of 1883, entitled The Bankers' Books Evidence Ordinance, 1883.

A number of the foreigners employed on board the Chinese war vessel at Ningpo having resigned, some other Europeans have been engaged. The men set as gunners and junior officers. We are informed says the Shanghai *Concord* that their life on board the Chinese men-of-war is anything but pleasant and that is the reason why they have left.

It is notified on Saturday's *Gazette* that His Excellency the Governor has been pleased to add the name of the following gentlemen to the Commission appointed to arrange for the proper representation of Hongkong at the Colonial and Indian Exhibition to be held in London in the year 1888. Dr. Ho Kai, Messrs. William Dunby, James Billington Coughtry, and John David Humphreys.

Amongst the passengers who left Yokohama on the 11th April in the Pacific Mail steamer *City of New York* was Mr. J. W. Wilkin, one of the oldest foreign residents of that Settlement. Mr. Wilkin had resided here for nearly twenty years, and during that time had conspicuously exerted himself in sharing the labours in connection with the charitable and other institutions of Yokohama.—*Japan Mail*.

The tables and examination papers of the prize examination held at the Government Central School in January, 1885, are published in the *Government Gazette*. The Chinese Government Scholarship was awarded to Ho Kai, who had 631 marks; the Stewart Scholarship to Lou Shan, who had 377 marks; and the Bellot Scholarship to H. Arthur, first class, 292 marks, and Cheung Tsoi, second class, 294 marks.

The following notice signed by Mr. H. M. Kelly, Secretary to the Hongkong General Chamber of Commerce, was issued on Saturday morning:— "The British Consul at Tamsui reports that the blockade of Tamsui was raised on 10th instant by order of the French Government. Vessels coming to Tamsui will, owing to the obstructions laid by the Chinese in the entrance to the harbour, have to anchor for the present outside the bar."

We (Clerk) hear that the negotiations between Li Chung-tang and Count Ito were brought to a satisfactory termination at dinner parties. Count Ito first invited Li Chung-tang to dinner with the Japanese Consulate, and Li Chung-tang a number of his friends, the dinner taking place at the Naval College. It was at this second dinner, we are informed, that the two negotiators came to an understanding on the Korean question.

According to Japanese newspaper papers the Chinese Government are said to intend to establish a telegraph line between Tientsin and Siam. The Korean Ambassador who recently arrived from Siam signed a contract for the telegraph line from Siam to Chelung-ho. He was much pleased to learn that a Korean student named Kim is able to understand the work. All the necessary apparatus the Ambassador has ordered from Hongkong.

The *Night Star* in Hongkong states that the *Daai Tei* Kao is now in complete wreck. She ran on rocks off the coast of Yunnan, China, while on her return to Hongkong on the 3rd April about half past 10 o'clock p.m. and sank to the deck on the 12th instant. The *Daai Tei* Kao, a fifth class man-of-war, built in England in 1867, was 126 feet long by 21 feet in width. She was of 65 horse-power, and was pierced for eight guns. Her crew numbered 83 all told.

We are given to understand (says the *N. C. Daily Mail*) that upon the news of Sir Harry Parkes' fall in Korea, the Chinese authorities immediately telegraphed to the Chinese Consul at Tientsin, and despatched him to the scene of the disaster. Why was not this made public? For we have been assured that such a message was received at Peking, and we are of opinion that it was the duty of the Chargé d'Affaires to Peking to become embroiled in any serious quarrel, it is not difficult to imagine Russia picking a quarrel with her over fishing rights and then seizing Yesso as satisfaction for an imaginary outrage. Japan is wisely acquiring a fleet which some day she may require to repel aggression on the part of the Russian Pacific Squadron. China is prudently colonising Manchuria with a view to keep out any overflow of Russians from the other side of the Amur. Russia has a pretext always ready for a quarrel with China in what she terms the Chinese border raids. The Peking Government ought to be careful not to be caught napping; the sleepless energy of the Russian intriguer is notorious the world over. What is needed to curb the activity of Russia is complete harmony between England, China, and Japan. Such an alliance would effectively secure the peace and tranquillity of Asia, and the mere fact of its existence would do more to check Russian schemes than a number of successful battles. Neither of these three Powers desires the territory of the other, and it is the interest of each to see the other's territory maintained intact. Japan, under foreign rule would be a constant menace to China, and England; China under foreign domination would mean the serious decline of British commerce in the East, and the erection of a power dangerous to British interests.

The *Courier* says that the steamer *Kingspan* returned to Shanghai from Ningpo on the evening of the 15th inst. She discharged her cargo and took board a fresh one at Chinhai, besides she had about 212 Chinese passengers from Ningpo. All was quiet there, and there was no prospect of the river being opened. The French ironclad *La Guadalquivir*, with Admiral Lespès in command, and two French naval vessels were at anchor under Liuchow, appearing to be watching the Chinese fleet. The *Kingspan* was not boarded at all by the French.

The following resolution of the Yokohama General Chamber of Commerce has been ordered by the Committee to be placed on the records of the Chamber, and also to be transmitted to the Chinese Government:— "That the members of the Yokohama General Chamber have with deep regret of the death of His Excellency Sir Harry S. Parkes, K.C.B., G.C.M.G., Her Britannic Majesty's Minister to Peking, and formerly for 18 years His Britannic Majesty's Representative in Japan, who during a long and brilliant career, devoted himself with earnest zeal to the advancement of the interests of his country in that country, the development of commerce, and the welfare and progress of China and Japan. For his ability, courage, untiring energy, and sound judgment this Chamber will ever entertain feelings of the highest admiration and esteem."

The bullying manner of the German students is proverbial, as is also their vanity for dicing. It was at Heidelberg that a quiet citizen leaving the school said to a swaggering student, "Sir, you are crowding me. Keep back, sir!" "The student retorted, "I am not afraid of you, sir!" "Well, sir, I am at your service whenever you please." "Oh, thank you!" said the traveller. "Your offer is very kind, and you may carry my valise to the hotel for me." The student fled amidst shouts of laughter.

The *Mercury*, ironclad, was charged with stealing a brass pipe from a house in Lascar Row, and was captured.

The defendant was convicted, and having been given four previous occasions for laciness, he was sentenced to six months' hard labour.

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Chun Achee, coolie, was charged with stealing a brass pipe from a house in Lascar Row.

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Mok Lai Ying, keeper of licensed brothel No. 55, was charged by British Inspector Lee with keeping two young girls between eight and fifteen years of age in his house at No. 210, Holly-road. She admitted having been punished before for a similar offence, and she was fined \$25, and default of payment committed to goal for a fortnight.

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EXTRACT.

"NEEDS MUST" &c.
The roiling drunkard howls torn
From drinking at the wayside inn;
His brow is hot, and fevered burns
His done-bombed brain within.
His coin is gone, for which he wot;
To drown his sorrows had he strives;
The sense of shame within has slept,
And drink he must—the devil drives.

His wife and children starve at home,
No ray of hope illuminates his sight;
For work around 'tis vain to toil,
He finds that "right is always right."
The river's dark and rolling tide
Is all for him that now survives;
He plunges in his bosom wide
The helpless wretch the devil drives!

H. LEONARD CLERKE, in *Pacific Opinion*.

BAT RIDDANCE.

In the year 1855 I was in command of the British vessel *Talbot*, lying along-side the wharf at Melbourne, bringing Chinese passengers for Hongkong. The wharfs were infested with rats that it was impossible to prevent their getting on board, and my vessel was well stoked with them. After being at sea a few days, I unstruck the passengers—with their effects—on deck, to give them an airing, and for the purpose of giving the passenger deck a good cleansing, and sprinkling some chloride of lime mixed with water. I also had a couple of buckets of the same mixture poured down the pumps. This I continued weekly; when, to my surprise, the rats made a raid on the cabin (pooch) on deck, and became a troublesome pest that neither myself nor my officers cared about turning in at night. A happy thought struck me—that the chloride of lime had driven them from below deck; so I had everything cleared out of the cabin and the staterooms, and freely used the mixture. This had the desired effect, the rats taking shelter in every available place outside. This gave us some good sport, especially on a moonlight night, when all hands engaged in hunting rats and driving them overboard, so that by the time we arrived at Hongkong not one was left on board. On my return to England, I took a house and furnished it. After being in it a short time I found that it was infested with rats. They would get through every part of the ground floor. On examination, I discovered that a drain ran under the house, emptying into the harbour. I here again used the chloride of lime freely; and in less than a week every rat had taken its departure. I have recommended this remedy to many shipmates and friends on shore; and in all cases it has proved a success. I have occupied my present residence for five years, and have never had a mouse on the premises. I attribute this to the free use of the above mixture, which is also effective as a deodorizer and disinfectant. —*Chamber's Journal*.

CHURCH AND STAGE.

Extremes meet much more frequently in real life than in fiction. The fictionist generally brings extremes together for the purpose of exciting our mirth by a remarkable contrast. No one has been more successful in obtaining ludicrous situations out of the meeting of extremes than the author of "The Bab Ballads." Incongruity has been the device upon his literary banner, and, thanks to the perfect art and exquisite finish of his style, he has carried that banner to victory again and again. The extremes that met first, if I remember rightly, in the pages of *Fuz*, when poor Tom Hood sat so comfortably in the editorial chair, have met again, and upon the stage of the *Opera Comique* and the *Savoy*, and have never failed to provoke the British audience to mirth. But real life, except on rare occasions, there is more pathos than humour in the meeting of extremes. There is tragedy, not comedy, in the spectacle of Lazarus shivering upon the doleful steps of Dives—starving for a crust of bread while the feast that costs a fortune is spread within, for a dozen dyspeptic millionaires, who pay their doctors golden guineas for "something to give me an appetite, don't you know?" It is a subject for sorrow and not for mirth, when the daughter of a hundred ears, fair and innocent and happy, steps from her carriage to enter the gall-lit theatre, and rubs elbows as she passes with the poor painted daughter of the night. It is strong drama, not screaming farce, when the weary working girls fall into the mire for a starvation wage at this costly robes which a fashionable Dives will wear for a few short hours on the morrow, spilt with a splash of "fizz," back and forth outside. One day last year I knew personally conducted over a wall I knew nothing about. It was a fine afternoon, and many of the patients were in the grounds. I mixed freely with them, and conversed with those who sprung a stranger, hastened to find a confidante for their trouble. They were all of the poorest class; they had been brought to the asylum because they were in somebody's way. One buxom young woman had been torn from her parents because the Prince of Wales had arranged to elope with her, and it was most important that she should go home again, as the Prince was waiting at Westminster Abbey for her, with the Archbishop of Canterbury, and he would be wondering why she didn't come to marry him as arranged. I also met in the grounds a venerable gentleman of benevolent appearance, who took me into a quiet corner, and asked me to lend him a farthing, as he had produced the sum, which was the smallest coin I had about me. He beared a deep sigh, and said that was no use. The Bank of England had been offered to him a bargain—the bank, with all its contents. The price was only a thousand pounds; but the Governor and company had made it a stipulation that the purchase-money should be paid in full. The old gentleman had already saved up nearly a hundred, but fullings were getting very scarce. He would gladly give five shillings each for them if I would tell him where they were to be had. I stayed in the grounds an hour, and should have stayed longer but for the determined attitude of an old lady, who held me forcibly by the collar of my coat, while she went into very minute details of a murder which she had committed. The victim was her husband, and his crime was making faces at her. She had killed him by making faces at him—such dreadful faces, that he died by inches, of fright. She began to show me the sort of faces that had proved fatal to her victim, and I was exceedingly glad when one of the keepers came and took her away, and enabled me to beat an honourable retreat. Not in the dungeon or the sick wards, but in a ward where a few quiet patients, who did not care to go out, were gathered together. I came upon a clergyman and a clown. The clergyman sat in a great arm-chair in a corner by the fire, his face hidden in the shadow. The clown sat on a low stool at his feet. My courteous guide pointed them out to me at once. Speaking in a low voice, that his words should not reach the two madmen, he told me their story. "There's a curious case in the corner yonder. You see the old gentleman in the corner yester." The old man, a clergyman of the Church of England, had been here for years; quite harmless, but had suicidal mania. That's quite sufficient for his friends to have kept her." "Has he had any great trouble, then?" I ask. "The answer I receive. I walk casually towards the little group in the corner, and give furtive glances at the clergyman. It is enough: I understand why he wished to kill himself. The upper part of his face is eaten away by

a terrible disease. The disfigurement is 835. Now ready. 1885.

THE CHRONICLE & DIRECTORY
For 1885.
WITH WHICH IS INCORPORATED
THE CHINA DIRECTORY.

(TWENTY-THIRD ANNUAL ISSUE,
ROYAL OCTOPO, p. 1,104. \$5.00.
SMALLER EDITION, pp. 716. \$3.00.)

THE CHRONICLE AND DIRECTORY

has been thoroughly revised and brought up to date, is again much improved.

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